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GENERAL

1. Reduction of US and UK Embassies in Moscow opposed—US Embassy Moscow reports that since the revaluation of the ruble it has carefully considered the desirability of reducing its operations. The Embassy states that in the light of all factors involved and particularly the crucial nature of US-Soviet relations, it is convinced that curtail—ment of the Embassy Moscow's operations would be detrimental to US national interests out of all proportion to the additional cost which continuance would entail.

The Embassy believes that the same reasoning should militate against the decision apparently made by the British to halve the size of their Moscow Embassy, especially since such a reduction would have a deplorable effect on joint US-UK operations.

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